## “His mercy endureth for ever”

*“O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good;*
*for His mercy endureth for ever.”* (1 Chronicles 16:34)

THE LORD has done much for me since we parted. We were once in perils of water; but the Lord saved the ship. Again and again we were in danger of plague; we nightly heard the: cry of the mourner; yet no plague came near our dwelling. Again and again we were in perils of robbers; the gun of the murderous Arab has been leveled at us; but the Lord stayed his hand. I have been at the gates of death since we parted. No man that saw me would have believed that I could be here this day; yet He hath healed our diseases, and brought me back to open once more to you the unsearchable riches of Christ. I, then, have reason to praise Him; for His mercy endureth for ever. The Lord has done much for you since we parted. My eyes filled with tears when I left you; for I thought He had done it in anger. I thought it was anger to me, and I thought it was anger to you; but now I see it was all love—it was all mercy to unworthy you and to unworthy me. The Lord gave you my dear brother to care for your souls; and far better than that, for to give you a man only would have been a poor gift, but He has given you His Holy Spirit. *“Bless the Lord, O my soul!”* Praise Him O, my people! for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Are there not some of you brands plucked out of the burning? You were in the burning; the pains of hell were actually getting hold on you. You had a hell in your own hearts; you had a hell yawning to receive you; but the Lord snatched you from the burning. Will you not praise Him? Are there not some of you whom I left blind, and deaf, and dumb, and dead? You saw no beauty in Him who is fairer than the children of men; you saw no glory in Immanuel—God manifest in the flesh. But the Lord has said: *“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam;”* and whereas you were blind, now you see. Oh! praise Him that hath done it. In heaven, they praise God most of all for this: *“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.”* Oh! have you no praise for Jesus for all His love—for the Father—for the Spirit? Some of you cannot sing; *“No man could learn that song but those that were redeemed from the earth”* (Revelation 14:3). Some of you are worse than when I left you. You have resisted me; you have resisted my brother; and, oh! worse than all, you have resisted the Holy Ghost. You are prayerless yet, Christless yet. Ah! unhappy souls, unredeemed, unrenewed, remember it will be too late to learn to praise when you die. You must begin now. I will tell you what a dear friend of my own once said before dying. She desired all the servants to be brought in, and she said very solemnly: “There’s nothing but Christ between me and weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth. Oh! [dying man, dying woman], if you have not Christ, then there is nothing between you and weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth.” You that will not praise Christ now, shall wail because of Him soon. — RMM

# SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

**January 23rd, 2022**

We gather together
Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and
Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

*Nursery available for 4 years old and younger*

*“O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good;*
*for His mercy endureth for ever.”*

(1 Chronicles 16:34)

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BELOVED, doubtings, fears, temptations, if not ordinarily prevailing, are consistent with gospel assurance. Though the devil's power be limited in reference unto the saints, yet his hands are not tied; though he cannot prevail against them, yet he can assault them. And although there be not *"an evil heart of unbelief"* in believers, yet there will still be unbelief in their hearts (Hebrews 3:12). Such an evidence, conviction, and persuasion of acceptance with God as are exclusive of all contrary reasonings, that suffer the soul to hear nothing of objections, that free and quiet it from all assaults, are neither mentioned in the Scripture, nor consistent with that state wherein we walk before God, nor possible on the account of Satan's will and ability to tempt, or of our own remaining unbelief. Assurance encourageth us in our combat; [however] it delivereth us not from it. We may have peace with God when we have none from the assaults of Satan. — John Owen

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## WELCOME

SINNERS are welcome at Sovereign Grace Church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an imperfect assembly, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God's underserved grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name Jesus for He shall (not might, not maybe) rather He shall save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it you are *complete in Him*, saved to the *uttermost* [Colossians 2:10, Hebrews 7:25].

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sovereign Grace Conference**
February 25th, 26th, & 27th

**Happy Birthday!**
Gary Borders, January 25th

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## RESOURCES

BE sure to visit our websites for gospel articles, live messages, and resources.

www.sovereigngracechurch.us

## GRACE ARTICLES

### "God will provide Himself a lamb"

*"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."*

(John 1:29)

"AND *Abraham said, My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together"*—language full of significance, and replete with the tenderest pathos. *"God will provide Himself a lamb"*—His love will furnish the sacrifice His justice demands. What God like unto our God, Himself providing at His own expense the offering He requires? *"He gave His only begotten Son."* The gods of heathenism received sacrifices, but they never gave them. The God of the Gospel, however, gives the sacrifice He demands. Transport yourselves in imagination to Athens or Rome; observe closely the images of the gods in motley crowds on either hand of you; see the rivers of red blood flowing towards them. No marvel that "Paul's spirit was stirred within him as he saw the city wholly given to idolatry" [Acts 17:16]. Come with me again to Jerusalem. Behold the image of the invisible God lifted up on Calvary [Hebrews 1:3]. Does blood flow towards it? No; blood flows from it. Here, then, we have hit upon the radical difference between Paganism and Christianity. Blood to the image—that is the essence of Paganism; blood from the image—that is the essence of Christianity. The heathen gods demand a sacrifice, but never provide it; the Gospel God both demands it and provides it. *"He gave His only begotten Son."*

*"God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering."* Here I rather like the Welsh version: "God will look into Himself for the lamb of the burnt offering." Looking outside Himself He saw nowhere a lamb fit to bear the burden of the world [of His elect]. But turning His eyes back upon Himself, He saw in His own bosom the needed ransom. "He looked into Himself," and in Himself found the lamb "for a burnt offering," "and so they went both of them together" God and the Lamb, the Father and the Son. "They rose up early in the morning" of time, started on their sacrificial errand, travelled together the paths of the centuries, and at last reached the top of the hill. And once there, God said, *"Awake, O sword, against My shepherd, and against the man that is My fellow." "He spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all"* [Zechariah 13:7, Romans 8:32]. Oh, wondrous grace! Sparing His enemies, but not sparing His Son! *"God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood,* [beloved] *we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life"* (Romans 5:8-10). —Copied